

KRAB KRONICLE

506th Aerospace Expeditionary Group

EXPEDITIONARY AIRMEN • SUSTAINING GLOBAL REACH • MAINTAINING AIR DOMINANCE
AND SUPPORT • TO STABILIZE A NATION • SO FREEDOM CAN FLOURISH



Vol. 1, Issue 20

Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq

Sept. 12, 2003



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

Base members participate in the retreat ceremony Aug. 31 at Tent City.

Patriot Day message for troops from President Bush

Two years ago, more than 3,000 innocent people lost their lives when a calm September morning was shattered by terrorists driven by hatred and destruction.

On that day, and in its aftermath, we saw the greatness of America in the bravery of victims; in the heroism of first responders who laid down their lives to save others; in the compassion of people who stepped forward to help those they had never met; and in the generosity of millions of Americans who enriched our country with acts of service and kindness. Since that day, we have seen the greatness of America further demonstrated in the courage of our brave men and women in uniform who have served and sacrificed in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and around the world to advance freedom and prevent terrorist attacks on America.

As we remember Sept. 11, 2001, we reaffirm the vows made in the earliest hours of our grief and anger. This Patriot Day, we hold steady to this task.

By a joint resolution approved Dec. 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), the Congress has designated Sept. 11 of each year as "Patriot Day."

Therefore I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sept. 11, 2003, as Patriot Day.

I call upon the people of the U.S. to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities, including remembrance services and candlelight vigils. I also call upon the Governors of the U.S. and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as well as appropriate officials of all units of government, to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff on Patriot Day.

In addition, I call upon all Americans to display the flag at half-staff from their homes on that day and to observe a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 a.m. eastern daylight time to honor the innocent victims who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

President George W. Bush

A common affiliation: families

By Staff Sgt. Marcellus Clark

506th Expeditionary Communications Squadron

There have been a lot of things that have wondered in my mind since I have been here at Kirkuk Air Base. Some of these things I try to place aside as they would make my stay more grueling.

Like the comforts of my house, my friends, my TV, and my family. These are the things that are important to me, not only me, but to many of us.

No matter how hard I try, these things are inescapable. So instead of pretending that they aren't there, I wanted to embrace them, like a family?

What is a family? To most of us a family is a group of people who takes care of you, feed you, clothe you, people that you depend on when times get hard.

Well take a look around you and see who is doing these things now.

Common affiliations... that sound like the military to me. People who takes care of you, feed you, clothe you, people that you depend on when times get hard. These are all the things that the military has, is, and will do for us.

I have met some people in the military who I consider to be my brother and my sister. Bloodlines only go but so far. The point that I'm trying to make is, we are all family here at Kirkuk Air Base.

I haven't met 90 percent of the people on this base, but they feed me, they clothe me, and I depend on them.

The security police and Army soldiers that protect us; I eat at the dining facility everyday, and if I need a new uniform, I go to supply to get one.

Here and now, I am with my family, you are my family.

Family is sometimes separated by miles and don't get to see or talk to each other often, such as the case of Army and Air Force.

I have heard in my short military career the Army dislikes the Air Force and vise versa.

This has always been something that I could never

understand; we are on the same team.

How could you hate a member of your family that you don't know? The Army is your family too.

We still have that common affiliation, they are protecting you and me so you can go back to your immediate family in one piece. There is something that has been heavy on my heart for two days now.

On Aug 2, an Army colonel drove up and asked me, "Do you know where the memorial for the KIA Army soldier is being held?" I had no idea, but I told him that I'd find out for him.

I asked about 13 Air Force members and not one of them knew where it was being held. I proceeded back to the HUMVEE and reluctantly told him that no one seemed to know where the memorial was being held. He didn't seem bothered that no one knew and drove on.

As he drove away, I couldn't believe what had just happened. I was appalled that no one, including myself knew where this memorial was being held.

A memorial for a brother in arms.

Now ask yourself, if a member of your immediate family had died, would you know where that memorial was being held?

This is no different; these are your brothers and sisters. These are the people who are keeping you safe while you are sleeping in your tents.

We depend on them and they depend on us. We can't do this alone. We have one fight, we have one goal, and we must put our petty differences aside and work as a team, to work as a family.

We have to respect each other, work together for this common fight we are in. I ask all personnel on Kirkuk Air Base to stop, take a look around you, see who is important to you and appreciate him and her for what they are.

I ask everyone to treat each other as family, because that is what we are: family.



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by the public affairs office of this installation. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The KRAB KRONICLE accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which may be submitted to the PA staff at the group headquarters building or can be e-mailed to lee.smith@krab.aorcentaf.af.mil

Submission deadline is noon. Monday the week before publication. All submissions are edited for content and Air Force journalistic style.

For more information, visit the PA office in the 506th AEG HQ building or call 460-0132.

(Flag is courtesy of Michelle Butzgy, Pope AFB, N.C.)

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News briefs

Town Hall meetings

Col. James Callahan, 506th AEG commander, will hold two town hall meetings Thursday at 5 p.m. and Sept. 19 at 8 a.m. at the clamshell.

The meeting is a chance to ask questions directly to the commander. All Kirkuk members are asked to attend one of the meetings.

New 56 elected officials

The newly formed 56 organization recently selected officers to serve and represent the group. They are:

Staff Sgt. Stacy LeBlanc, president

Tech. Sgt. Brian Scannon, vice president

Staff Sgt. Ron Wilson, treasurer

Tech. Sgt. Stacey Whirlow, secretary.

KRAB Triathlon

A triathlon will be held Sunday at the fitness center. The event will consist of a four-mile run, a 12-mile stationary bicycle and 10 laps in the pool. For more information, call 460-0271.

Kickboxing class

A kickboxing class will begin Mondays and Fridays at 1 p.m. at Wednesdays at 8 p.m., at the fitness center.

For more information, call 460-0271.

Intramural football league

All squadrons who want to participate in the upcoming intramural flag football season can sign up now at the fitness center.

Letters of intent are due to the fitness center Saturday. The season is scheduled to begin Tuesday.

For more information, call 460-0271.

Intramural football officials

The fitness center is looking for volunteers to officiate the upcoming intramural flag football season which begins Tuesday. For more information, call 460-0271.

Iron Man/Woman competition

The base will hold its first-ever Iron Man/Iron Woman Competition Sept. 23. For more information, call 460-0277.

Rising Four meeting

The Rising Four, a group comprised of Air Force, Army, and other junior enlisted members, will meet Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. in the Cantina.

DHL shipping available

DHL personal shipping services are now available. For more information, go to the traffic management office in Building 110 or send an e-mail to andrew.barber@krab.aorcentaf.af.mil.

Pax, cargo info online

Passenger and cargo information is now available on-line. TMO customers can now gain access to cargo shipping requests, travel tips and useful web links. Log onto <http://www.krab.aorcentaf.af.mil/506AEG/ELRS/tmo.asp>.

Special Leave Accrual for deployed members in use or lose status

By Tech. Sgt. Kelly Leslie
506th AEG/PERSCO

A new policy will allow members deployed here to carry over excess leave until the end of the next fiscal year or in some cases to September 2005.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Management Policy recently announced the implementation of a Special Leave Accrual policy for active-duty service members supporting operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, as well as Operation Noble Eagle.

Members who were recalled from or not authorized annual leave as a consequence of home-station duty assignments in support of contingency operations are also eligible, as well as Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard personnel who were performing full-time training or full-time duty for a period of more than 29 days. These members are authorized to accumulate annual leave in excess of 60 days as shown on their end of month September leave and earnings statement.

Members approved to carry over leave must use any restored leave by Sept. 30, 2004. However, if extenuation circumstances prevent a member from taking all the SLA by then, the member may apply after Sept. 30, 2004 to have the unused portion carried over until Sept 30, 2005. Individuals who meet the criteria should apply for special leave accrual through command channels.

Specific application procedures vary by base, but expect to provide LES showing lost leave and travel voucher as source documents. Any commander in the chain may disapprove SLA request without referring it to a higher-level authority when the member's request does not meet the criteria for SLA consideration. Request for those members retiring or separating, and restored leave will be included in their terminal leave request, should expedite requests through the servicing MAJCOM to ensure leave is restored prior to the effective date of retirement/separation.

Contact your home station commander's support staff for local application procedures.

New temporary escort badges help secure base

Story and graphic
by Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy
506th Air Expeditionary
Group Public Affairs

The 506th Air Expeditionary Group has adopted a new system to better track contractors on base.

The new color-coded badges are mandatory for all local and third-country nationals who are scheduled to perform work on the installation.

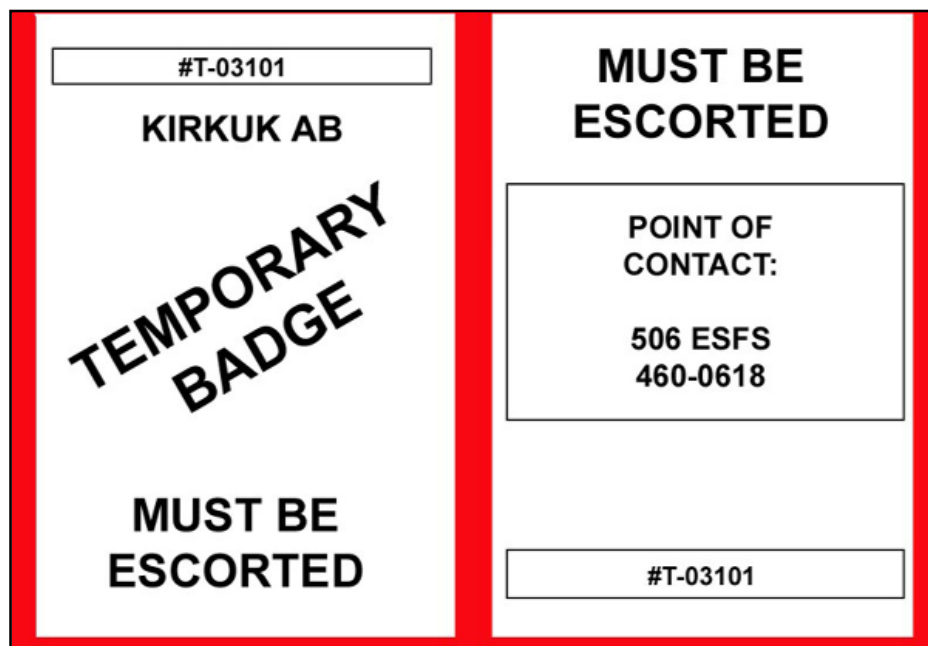
According to Master Sgt. John Sobel, 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, the badge system began approximately three weeks ago and is still in the working process. and

"The badges gives us better control of who is coming on base and for what reason," said Sobel. "Eventually all personnel on base, in civilian attire, will have some sort of identification."

The badges come in three colors: red, green and blue. The red badges are used for contractors who must be escorted at all times.

The green-border badges are for contractor supervisors who do not require an escort at all times.

The final badge, with a blue border, is given to contract workers who reside in tent city.



This is an example of what one of the new badges will look like-without the photo-on the front and back.

"People on base will mostly see the red temporary badges," said Sobel. "These badges will be worn with or without photos on them. Badges with pictures are for personnel working on base for extended periods of time. For example, the dining facility workers will wear the badges with pictures on them."

Base residents need to be aware of

contractors working on base and report anyone suspicious or improperly wearing a badge.

Additionally, anyone who needs to acquire a badge for a contractor needs to work through the pass and ID Office or the contracting office here.

For more information, call the pass and ID Office at 460-0618.



A "class" promotion

Airman Craig Mason, center, is promoted to the rank of airman 1st class by Col. Jim Callahan, left, 506th Air Expeditionary Group commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Jack Skaggs during the September promotion ceremony Sept. 1. Mason was one of 23 members who put their new rank on this month.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

Base detail ensures tent safety

Story and photo by
Maj. Roger Lawson
506th Air Expeditionary Group
Public Affairs chief

Residents of Kirkuk brought a new meaning to the term "sandbagging" last week as they teamed up to fill, what seemed at times, an endless supply of green, polypropylene bags.

The sandbag detail, which included 260 volunteers from the 506th Air Expeditionary Group, 173rd Airborne Brigade and Latvian contingent, filled more than 13,000 sandbags to help prepare tent city for what promises to be a wet and windy fall.

"With inclement weather right around the corner, our goal was to get a double layer of sand bags around each tent as quickly as possible", said Master Sgt. Dale Brocious, 506th



Tech. Sgts. Frank Greenan, left, 506th ECES, and Charles Hart, 506 AEG safety, sand bag at Tent City Sept. 2.

AEG Tent City mayor. "And, tent city representatives unanimously voted to pitch in some manual labor to get the tents battened down, instead of waiting for contractors to do the work."

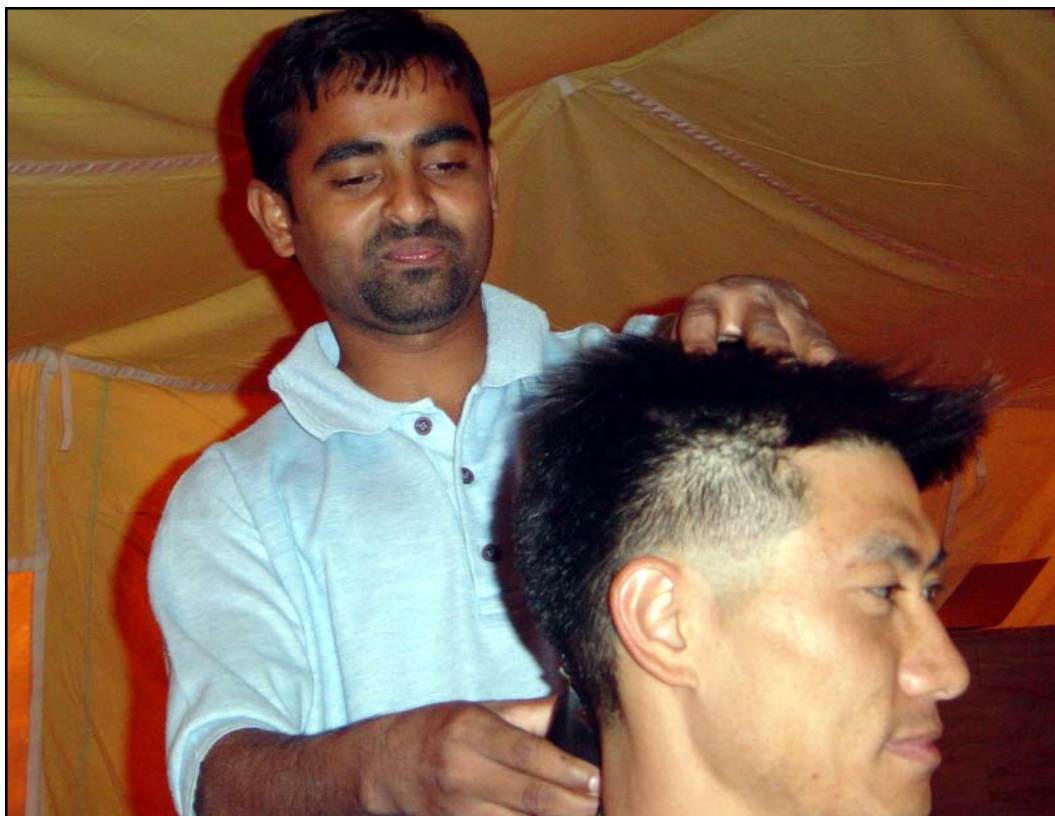
Sandbagging the tents is designed

to serve a three-fold purpose.

According to Brocious, weather experts are forecasting winds in excess of 62 knots and up to four inches of rain in coming months. The bags should help prevent the tents from being blown or floated away. The sandbags also create a barrier to keep critters and varmints, such as rats, mice, scorpions and crickets out.

"Even with temperatures above 110 (degrees), there was no shortage of volunteers", said Lt. Col. Mike Hatfield, 506 AEG deputy commander for support. "And when we finished, I think we all shared a sense of accomplishment...and of course, a sore back."

An estimated 300 tons, or 30 dump truck loads, of sand were required to fill the bags.



New barber

A local barber cuts hair at the new barber tent Tuesday. The tent has recently opened for business and is located next to the base exchange. The barber is there from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday.

Photo by Senior Airman Lee Smith

September Sports Day to remember



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

The 506 Expeditionary Services Squadron compete in the swim relay event Sunday at the base pool, won by the 506th Expeditionary Medical Squadron.

The Army's 173rd Division repeated as the champions of Sports Day Sunday as they narrowly edged the 506th Expeditionary Services Squadron in the overall competition, 28-27. The Latvian contingent earned third place by garnering a total of 21 points. The 173rd also edged the 506th ESVS in August. The next KRAB Sports Day is scheduled for Oct. 5.



Latvians pull during the tug of war competition that they would go on to win.



A 506th ESVS flag football player evades a 506th Expeditionary Communications Squadron defender outside of the fitness center. The 506th ESVS emerged as the winner of this event.

Scores and more

MLB Pennant Races

(as of Thursday)

American League

East	W	L	GB	Left
NYN	88	56	-	18
BOS	85	60	3.5	17

Central

CHW	78	67	-	17
MIN	77	68	1	17
KC	74	70	3.5	18

West

OAK	85	60	-	17
SEA	83	62	1	17

A.L. Wild Card

BOS	85	60	-	17
SEA	83	62	1	17

National League

Central

HOU	78	67	-	17
CHC	77	68	-	17
STL	76	70	1.5	16

N.L. Wild Card

FLA	81	65	--	16
PHI	80	66	1	18
LA	77	67	3.0	18
CHC	77	68	3.5	17
STL	76	70	5	16

In other headlines...

Boxing ... Former U.S. Olympic gold medalist Oscar De La Hoya mets Shane Mosley Saturday in a rematch of their fight from 2000 - won by Mosley.

Tennis ... 2003 U.S. Open champ Andy Roddick will play for the U.S. in Slovenia in September. If victorious, the U.S. will be eligible for the 2004 Davis Cup.

Chapel Schedule

Saturday

7 p.m. -- Catholic Mass

Sunday

8 a.m. -- Gospel Service

9 a.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

10 a.m. -- General Protestant

11:30 a.m. -- Catholic Mass

1 p.m. -- Latter-Day Saints

2 p.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldiers Chapel)

7 p.m. -- Protestant Service

Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Growing as a Christian: Studying the Book of James

5 and 6:30 p.m. -- Building Your Faith: Studying the Book of Hebrews

Wednesday

8 a.m. -- Biblical Heritage in Kirkuk area

5 p.m. -- Building Faith

Friday

9 a.m. Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

All services are held at the Ten Days From Tomorrow Chapel unless otherwise noted. Times are subject to change. Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and others should contact chapel administration for updates of their religious requirements and support.

Around the Air Force

BRAC e-mail a hoax

WASHINGTON — An e-mail hoax has been circulating through inboxes. The e-mail contains a spoofed Air Force Print News story about proposed base realignment and closure actions allegedly affecting all services. Officials were alerted to the hoax by a military officers' association in California.

Band of Rockies changes name

(AFPN) — The U.S. Air Force Band of the Rockies will be renamed The U.S. Air Force Academy Band on Oct. 1. The band will continue its primary mission of

“troop support” while refocusing its national touring mission to support the recruiting and community relations needs of the academy.

TSP catch-up contributions

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — Eligible Air Force-served civilian employees and military members age 50 and over can begin enrolling for Thrift Savings Plan “catch up” contribution Monday.

The maximum amount that can be contributed through the end of December is \$2,000.

Explosive ordnance disposal item of the week

Projectiles – These items can range from small mortar rounds to large artillery. The different types of projectiles have many different purposes ranging from armor piercing to illuminations. A great deal of these ordnance are explosive in nature. Many of these ordnance have sensitive fuzing systems and should not be bothered or tampered with. If encountered, do not attempt to move it or pick it up. Mark the area in accordance with the Airman's Manual, and contact EOD with the location and a point of contact.



Courtesy photo

Commonly used phone numbers

ATOC	460-0038
BDOC	460-0960
Cantina	460-0811
CC Supt. Section ...	460-0099
CE Cust. Serv.....	460-0058
Chaplain	460-0129
Command Chief	460-0052
Command Post.	460-0077
COMM Help Desk ...	460-0000
Contracting	460-0860
Dining Facility.....	460-0605
EMEDS.....	460-0802
EOD	460-0903
Fire Department ...	460-0030
Finance	460-0866
First Sergeant.....	460-0016
Fitness Center	460-0271
Latvians	460-0065
Legal	460-0117
Lodging	460-0806
Logistics Plans	460-0194
OSI	460-0326
PERSCO	460-0625/0627
Public Affairs	460-0131
Protocol.....	460-0260
Safety.....	460-0090
Supply	460-0039

For a complete listing of agencies' telephone numbers, log onto <http://www.krab.aorcentaf.af.mil/Phonebooks.html>.

What's Your Sign?

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 21) Yes, that's it. Furrowed brow, pressed lips, nodding head... you actually look like you understand what's going on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 21) Patience, respect, and intelligence are your strongest traits. Too bad your voice is grating and your personality is unpleasant.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22) The phrase "pizza face" doesn't mean that you're yummy to look at. It refers to the three different types of mushrooms rooted in that face cheese you affectionally call "natural oil."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Interesting. You talk so much your mouth looks like it never closes. Is that a nest of birds in there?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 21 - Dec. 21) Sometimes, you get further with a carrot than with a stick. But you can use either to poke out an annoying person's eyes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Discipline is not your strongest trait. Try varying your routine of slacking off with intermittent periods of goofing around.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 18) Stayed focused. Rumor has it that we are in a combat zone and not Fantasy or Paradise Island.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20) Dude! Exhibitionism ain't your thing. Use those new shower curtains 'cause we don't want to see it.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Pay no attention to the man behind the shower curtain. It obviously just encourages him.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) A person's maturity is proportionate to his ability to accept new ideas. Take that, pooppy head!

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20) Take some time to appreciate your greatest accomplishment. When you figure out what it is you've accomplished, let the rest of us know.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22) Why bother with all that safety diatribe? I'm sure they wouldn't give you ammunition for your weapon if it wasn't safe for you to have it.

Translations

Many of the locals in Kirkuk speak broken Arabic.

Similar to how English is spoken differently in areas of the U.S., the Kurds and Iraqis here have their own version of slang Arabic that they speak.

The following are some conversational Arabic words and phrases

that might be used when interacting with the locals.

The phrase is listed on the left, and the Arabic pronunciation on the right and in bold letters.

How are you? **Shelonek?**

Are you sick? **Hal anta mareez?**

Are you hungry? **Hal anta**

jouaan?

Today is hot. **Al yoom harr.**

What is up? **Shakoo makoo?**

Are you happy? **Hal-anta farham?**

Did you want to hang out?

Hal treed netla barra?